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while the number of deaths arising from an epidemic can only be approximated by a tedious estimate based upon the increased number of coffins sold, together with the guess of the native doctors, who, by the way, are not called on at all in many cases that prove fatal. The time between the first appearance of symptoms and death is usually less than twenty-four hours. From such sources it is thought the number of deaths in Amoy during the three months ran from 40 daily in the early part of the period to 100 daily later on.

In 4 towns within a distance of 35 miles of Amoy the epidemic was about as bad as at Amoy.

It is somewhat near the facts to place the number of deaths from bubonic plague in the five cities during the three months about as follows: During June, 250 daily; July, 400 daily; first fifteen days of August, 200 daily; remainder of August, 100 cases daily.

It is estimated that during this season almost, if not fully, 90 per cent of the cases proved fatal. Seldom a recovery was reported during the month of July, when the epidemic was at its worst. No foreigners were attacked, and they did not seem even to apprehend that they were in any great danger of taking the dread disease. There never was a case among foreigners at Amoy, and but 1, I believe, along this coast. As usual, the rats took the disease first, and the appearance of the epidemic on any street was marked in advance by the death of rats. The people became greatly alarmed and almost panic-stricken. It was only by maintaining guards about the little island of Kulangson, on which foreigners reside, that the patients and horror-stricken residents of the old town were kept away.

Business is fast resuming normal proportions, and all apparent danger has passed.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

A. BURLINGAME JOHNSON,
United States Consul.

[Inclosure.]

AMOY, August 23, 1897.

DEAR SIR: We have the honor to inform you that during the past three weeks there has been a marked decrease in the number of cases of bubonic plague occurring in Amoy, and that, in our opinion, the disease has now ceased to be epidemic, and exists only in the sporadic form.

We have the honor to be, dear sir,

ARTHUR D. PRENDERVILLE, *M. R. C. S. Eng.*
THOS. D. WINGATE, *M. B. C. M.*

A. BURLINGAME JOHNSON, Esq.,
Consul for the United States of America, Amoy.

CUBA.

Smallpox and yellow fever in Cuban seaports.

October 12: The United States consul at Cardenas reports that during the week ended October 9 there was in that city 1 death from yellow fever and no deaths from smallpox.

October 11: The United States consul at Cienfuegos reports that during the week ended October 10 there were in that city no deaths from yellow fever and 1 death from smallpox.

October 8: The United States consul at Matanzas reports that during

the week ended October 6 there were in that city 2 deaths from yellow fever.

October 9: The United States sanitary inspector at Habana reports that during the two weeks ended October 14 there were in that city 39 deaths from yellow fever and 4 deaths from smallpox.

He also reports that during the same time there were in the town of Regla 30 deaths from yellow fever.

October 9: The United States consul at Santiago de Cuba reports that during the week ended October 9 there were in that city 8 deaths from yellow fever.

October 11: The United States consul at Sagua la Grande reports that during the week ended October 9 there were in that city 3 deaths from yellow fever and 30 cases and 2 deaths from smallpox.

Sanitary report from Habana.

HABANA, CUBA, *October 9, 1897.*

SIR: I have the honor to transmit the following report for the week ended Thursday, October 7, in which is embodied the operations of this office and concise statements of sanitary matters, as well as a table of comparative statistics of this city:

Thirteen vessels were inspected and passed to ports in the United States during the week. On one vessel, the steamship *Yucatan*, a case of measles was found; with this exception, no contagious or infectious diseases were found. On Sunday, October 3, the American schooner *Wave*, with cattle from Key West, entered this port and proceeded to a wharf where her cargo was discharged, and as this wharf was on the Habana side of the harbor near "Dead Man's Hole" I ordered her master to proceed to Tortugas for treatment of vessel. I am glad to state that on this occasion the treatment accorded your medical officer was courteous; evidently the measures adopted by the service on her arrival at Key West on her previous trip accomplished much good. Passenger traffic to the United States has fallen off only to be resumed as soon as the close quarantine season is over. The heavy rains have ceased and the temperature is very cool.

There is nothing to add about the sanitary conditions of the city—they never improve. The mortality is heavier this week than ever before. Although I have been able to obtain during the past ten days more reliable statistics, I do not believe that it is possible to secure the exact number of deaths occurring here, but I believe that I now secure over 90 per cent of them. I shall, in the future, consolidate the deaths occurring in Habana and Regla, as the deaths that occur in the latter place are almost exclusively of persons taken from Habana. It is reported that bodies of persons buried at Guanabacoa, a small town 3 miles east of Habana, are being disinterred to make room for new burials and that the stench from bodies not buried a year is unbearable. I should state that it is the custom to remove the remains of persons after they have been buried five years, unless the ground is again paid for; but it seems in this instance that less than one year had intervened.

Yellow fever.—There are about 400 cases of the disease in Habana and Regla, with 36 deaths in both places. With a continuance of the cool weather, coupled with the fact that there is but little new material here